



**KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO**  
GOVERNOR

## State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Mr. Bill O'Reilly  
C/o Ron Mitchell  
Fox News Channel  
1211 6th avenue  
New York, NY 10036

VIA EMAIL: [ron.mitchell@foxnews.com](mailto:ron.mitchell@foxnews.com)

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

I commend your aggressive advocacy to ensure that states do everything possible to protect children from sexual predators.

Your reporting on the Jessica Laws in Florida has raised some serious and important issues that governors and state legislatures must consider to protect our children. Regarding Louisiana's laws in this area, I am pleased to share the following information with you.

Louisiana law makes the rape of any child punishable by mandatory life in prison without the benefit of probation, parole or suspension of sentence. If convicted in Louisiana, the sexual predator never leaves our prison system. Louisiana may be the only state that allows a jury to sentence a child sexual predator to death when the child is under the age of 12.

Our laws are tough. I want them to be the toughest in the nation. That's why I've asked the Louisiana District Attorneys Association and criminal prosecutors to thoroughly review our laws and suggest how we can further strengthen them to protect our children from sexual predators.

I commend Governors who have pledged to enact Jessica's Law and I encourage them to go one step further and make rape of a child mandatory life in prison. I'll help my fellow Governors in any way I can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Babineaux Blanco".

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco  
Governor